

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended)An apparatus for flushing data from a cache to secondary storage, the apparatus comprising:

an identification module configured to identify predefined high priority cache structures and predefined low priority cache structures; and

a flushing module configured to selectively flush low priority cache structures according to a first scheme in response to a demand load and a second scheme in response to substantially no demand load; and

wherein the first scheme selects a low priority cache structure that will free the most space in a cache and the second scheme selects a low priority cache structure that will free the least space in a cache.
2. (Original)The apparatus of claim 1, wherein selection criteria of the second scheme comprises the inverse of selection criteria of the first scheme.
3. (Original)The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the demand load comprises free space in a cache decreasing below a free space threshold.
4. (Original)The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a sort module configured to order the low priority cache structures according to size.
5. (Canceled)

6. (Original)The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the low priority cache structure selected according to the second scheme is larger than about four kilobytes.

7. (Currently Amended)An apparatus for flushing data from a cache to secondary storage, the apparatus comprising:

a sort module configured to order predefined high priority cache structures and predefined low priority cache structures according to a first criteria and a second criteria;~~and~~

a flushing module configured to selectively flush low priority cache structures according to a first scheme in response to a demand load and a second scheme in response to substantially no demand load; ~~and~~

wherein the first scheme selects a low priority cache structure that will free the most space in a cache and the second scheme selects a low priority cache structure that will free the least space in a cache.

8. (Currently Amended)The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the first scheme selects a low priority cache structure according to an order opposite ~~the~~an order used under the second scheme.

9. (Original)The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the demand load comprises free space in a cache decreasing below a free space threshold.

10. (Original)The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the first criteria comprises a least recently used algorithm and the second criteria comprises a size algorithm.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Original)The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the low priority cache structure selected according to the second scheme is larger than about four kilobytes.

13. (Currently Amended)A system for flushing data from a cache to secondary storage, comprising:

a storage manager configured to transfer data between a host and a plurality of logical volumes corresponding to one or more physical volumes, the logical volumes identified as low priority and high priority;

a media library configured to transfer data between a direct access storage device cache configured to cache logical volumes and one or more physical volumes; and

a cache manager configured to manage logical volumes stored in the direct access storage device cache and selectively flush low priority logical volumes according to a first scheme in response to a demand load and a second scheme in response to substantially no demand load-, wherein the first scheme selects a low priority cache structure that will free the most space in a cache and the second scheme selects a low priority cache structure that will free the least space in a cache.

14. (Original)The system of claim 13, wherein selection criteria of the second scheme comprises the inverse of selection criteria of the first scheme.

15. (Original)The system of claim 13, wherein the demand load comprises free space in the direct access storage device cache decreasing below a free space threshold.

16. (Original)The system of claim 13, further comprising ordering the low priority logical volumes according to size.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Original)The system of claim 17, wherein the low priority logical volume selected according to the second scheme is larger than about four kilobytes.

19. (Currently Amended)A method for flushing data from a cache to secondary storage, comprising:

identifying predefined high priority cache structures and predefined low priority cache structures; ~~and~~

selectively flushing low priority cache structures according to a first scheme in response to a demand load and a second scheme in response to substantially no demand load; and

wherein the first scheme selects a low priority cache structure that will free the most space in a cache and the second scheme selects a low priority cache structure that will free the least space in a cache.

20. (Original)The method of claim 19, wherein selection criteria of the second scheme comprises the inverse of selection criteria of the first scheme.

21. (Original)The method of claim 19, wherein the demand load comprises free space in a cache decreasing below a free space threshold.

22. (Original)The method of claim 19, further comprising ordering the low priority cache structures according to size.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended)The method of claim ~~18~~23, wherein the low priority cache structure selected according to the second scheme is larger than about four kilobytes.

25. (Currently Amended)An apparatus for flushing data from a cache to secondary storage, comprising:

means for identifying predefined high priority cache structures and predefined low priority cache structures;~~and~~

means for selectively flushing low priority cache structures according to a first scheme in response to a demand load and a second scheme in response to substantially no demand load; ~~and~~

wherein the first scheme selects a low priority cache structure that will free the most space in a cache and the second scheme selects a low priority cache structure that will free the least space in a cache.

26. (Original)The apparatus of claim 25, wherein selection criteria of the second scheme comprises the inverse of selection criteria of the first scheme.

27. (Original)The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the demand load comprises free space in a cache decreasing below a free space threshold.

28. (Currently Amended)An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a processor and embodying one or more instructions executable by a processor to perform a method for flushing data from a cache to secondary storage, the method comprising:

identifying predefined high priority cache structures and predefined low priority cache structures;~~and~~

selectively flushing low priority cache structures according to a first scheme in response to a demand load and a second scheme in response to substantially no demand load; ~~and~~

wherein the first scheme selects a low priority cache structure that will free the most space in a cache and the second scheme selects a low priority cache structure that will free the least space in a cache.

29. (Original)The article of manufacture of claim 28, wherein selection criteria of the second scheme comprises the inverse of selection criteria of the first scheme.

30. (Original)The article of manufacture of claim 28, wherein the demand load comprises free space in a cache decreasing below a free space threshold.